

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC., AND CITIZENS TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY OF IOWA	DOCKET NO. SPU-99-31
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**ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR
EXTENSION OF TIME AND REVISING SCHEDULE**

(Issued February 3, 2000)

On January 31, 2000, U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST), and Citizens Telecommunications Company of Iowa (Citizens) filed a request for an extension of time to file prepared rebuttal testimony, with supporting exhibits and workpapers. U S WEST and Citizens state that on December 16, 1999, the Utilities Board (Board) issued an order requiring the applicants in this docket to file prepared rebuttal testimony, with supporting exhibits and workpapers by February 4, 2000. Under the existing procedural schedule, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice's prepared direct testimony in this was filed January 26, 2000. According to the request, U S WEST personnel who will participate in the preparation of the rebuttal testimony are also engaged in the U S WEST and Qwest Inc. merger proceeding. Because of hearings commencing on February 1, 2000, in that proceeding, those personnel will not have adequate time and resources to prepare necessary rebuttal testimony for filing on February 4, 2000.

U S WEST and Citizens have requested the date for filing of rebuttal testimony be extended from February 4, 2000, to February 11, 2000.

Although the Board understands that there are limitations on personnel and resources in preparing the testimony, there must also be adequate time for Board preparation. The Board will grant an extension of time to file rebuttal testimony until February 9, 2000. This extension will provide additional time for U S WEST and Citizens to adequately prepare while still allowing time for Board preparation without delaying the hearing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The request for extension of time to file prepared rebuttal testimony, filed in this docket on January 31, 2000, by U S WEST Communications, Inc., and Citizens Telecommunications Company of Iowa, is granted in part.

2. Ordering paragraph 4.b from the Board's December 16, 1999, scheduling order in this docket is revised to read as follows:

4.b. Applicants shall file any rebuttal testimony, with supporting exhibits and workpapers, on or before February 9, 2000.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr. /s/ Diane Munns
Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 3rd day of February, 2000.